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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Production and Marketing Administration  
State College, New Mexico

NEW MEXICO

WEEKLY FARM PROGRAM NEWS

10-7-49  
NO. 366

PMA COMMITTEE STRESSES COTTONSEED LOAN - "Don't take less than the support price for your cottonseed!"

This is the advice of the \_\_\_\_\_ county Production and Marketing Administration Committee, reminding cotton growers that they can obtain a price-supporting loan of \$49.50 per ton on seed with a moisture content of 11 percent or less provided they have adequate storage available.

"Although lack of storage space and the possibility of excessive moisture content may appear as stumbling blocks to some farmers who would like to take advantage of the loan, we believe that both problems can be overcome in most cases," says \_\_\_\_\_, committee chairman.

The committee believes that if growers will acquire adequate storage so that seed can be held off the market when market prices are below the support rate, there is a good possibility that the storage bins will "pay for themselves."

"Building materials and pre-fabricated bins are plentiful, and the Commodity Credit Corporation will lend farmers up to 85 percent of the actual cost of construction at 4 percent interest," says the committee.

CCC storage facility loans are negotiated through the county PMA office in \_\_\_\_\_, and are repayable over a period of five years.

The other problem -- that of excessive moisture content -- can largely be solved by the farmer himself, according to the chairman.

"If growers will make every effort to gin only dry seed cotton and take proper care of their seed after ginning, the average moisture content can be considerably lowered," \_\_\_\_\_ says. "It is quite possible that available statistics on moisture content have been somewhat distorted by the practice of mixing green and wet seed with dry seed and then drawing samples from carload lots of the mixture."





"If these seed were separated into small wagon or truck lots, hauled back to the farm and stored in small quantities, it would undoubtedly result in a much lower average moisture content than the present method of handling."

Only a moisture test and visual inspection of the cottonseed are required before a price support loan is made, the chairman explains. Proceeds of the loan are paid through sight draft drawn on CCC by the county committee through a local bank or other lending agency.

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1950 ACP PROVIDES FOR POOLING AGREEMENTS - Any group of \_\_\_\_\_ county farmers faced with a common conservation problem may combine efforts in a pooling agreement under the 1950 Agricultural Conservation Program.

\_\_\_\_\_, chairman of the county Production and Marketing Administration Committee, advises that this is not a new provision in the program but that it would be emphasized more than ever in 1950, because so many conservation problems can be met only by the joint action of neighboring farmers.

Such a project, he explains, may be the digging of a drain which will improve several farms, the lining of an irrigation canal that brings water to a number of farms or other similar enterprises.

"Although assistance under the ACP usually is provided to help individual farmers carry out conservation practices on their own farms, under the pooling agreement, this assistance -- all or part -- may be used in meeting a conservation problem which is common to a number of farmers," says the chairman.

Under this provision, as for the individual farmer, the assistance provided under ACP will average about half or less of the cost of the project, the chairman explains. This means the cooperating farmers are required to put up their share of the cost.

Since all such practices must be approved by the county PMA Committee before assistance can be approved, any group of farmers planning \_\_\_\_\_





under a pooling agreement in 1950 should talk over their plans with the county committee before beginning work on the project. Certain specifications must be met to qualify for assistance, and these should be understood before work is begun.

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COTTON QUOTA QUESTION COMING UP - By October 15, cotton farmers will have some indication of how much cotton they should grow next year to meet national requirements, Leslie Martin, Chairman of the State Production and Marketing Administration Committee, said today.

Not later than that date, the Secretary of Agriculture must "find and proclaim" the total and the normal cotton supply, the amount of the national marketing quota -- if any, and the national acreage allotment necessary to produce the marketing quota. Under terms of new cotton legislation enacted last August, the Secretary must proclaim marketing quotas for 1950-51 if the total supply of cotton for 1949-50 exceeds the normal supply.

If quotas are proclaimed, a referendum of cotton farmers must be held not later than December 15. To become effective, quotas must be approved by at least two-thirds of the farmers voting.

As a first step in the procedure, Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan has invited all interested parties to submit their views on the cotton situation. The Secretary's findings of fact will determine whether marketing quotas must be proclaimed for the 1950 crop of American upland cotton.

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BALANCED GRAZING PAYS - Three points to check in good range management were outlined here today by \_\_\_\_\_, Chairman (member) of the \_\_\_\_\_ county Production and Marketing Administration Committee.

First: Enough watering places and not too far apart. This allows for more even grazing of the range. Livestock will not be forced to trample out the vegetation around a few "far-between" water holes.





Second: Moderate grazing. Undergrazing is safer and more profitable than over-grazing. If the palatable grasses are to be maintained on the range, they must be allowed to store plant food in the roots. Safe grazing allows about half the top growth to go ungrazed. A good covering of grass protects the soil from erosion and checks run-off. This provides one of the best means of flood control.

Third: Controlled grazing. Too early grazing should be avoided. Fences may be necessary to obtain uniform grazing over the whole range -- to avoid too heavy grazing in one section and undergrazing in another.

The chairman points out that numerous experiments indicate that the greatest profit comes from moderate rather than excessive grazing. But there always is the temptation to put "just a few more" and this usually results in damage to the range and a smaller profit from the enterprise. "Three head where you want to put four is a pretty good rule to go by," says the chairman.

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NEW MEXICO

WEEKLY FARM PROGRAM NEWS

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1949 CORN PRICE SUPPORT ANNOUNCED - Prices for the 1949 Corn Crop will be supported at \$1.52 per bushel, basis No. 3 yellow corn in all counties in New Mexico, says Thomas R. Roberts, member of the State PMA Committee. Farmers may apply for either loans or purchase agreements at County PMA Offices.

The 1949 loan and purchase rates are based upon 90% of the parity price of corn as of October 1, 1949, as required by controlling legislation.

Loans for constructing or acquiring storage facilities are available to farmers who do not have adequate storage. These loans are part of the program of Commodity Credit Corporation and may cover 85% of the cost of the storage structure with repayments in five annual installments. Interest is charged at the rate of 4% per annum.

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MONTHLY HOG SUPPORT LEVELS ANNOUNCED - Monthly hog price-support levels for the next 6 months, announced recently by the Department of Agriculture, are the amount at which average hog prices must be maintained if farmers are to receive 90 percent of the parity price for hogs, Santiago Marquez, Member of the State Production and Marketing Administration Committee, said today.

The monthly support levels are: October, \$16.40 per hundred pounds; November, \$15; December, \$14.20; January, \$14.90; February, \$15.50; March, \$16.20.

Mr. Marquez explained that weekly guides are also determined as an aid in carrying out actual support operations if they are needed. These guides reflect the normal weekly relationship between the average price at 7 Midwestern markets and the national monthly average price. The guides are not specific support levels at the markets.

The national average price farmers received for hogs as of September 15 was \$19.90 per 100 pounds.

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FARMERS URGED TO COMPLETE CONSERVATION WORK - \_\_\_\_\_, Chairman of the \_\_\_\_\_ County FMA Committee, today appealed to all farmers of \_\_\_\_\_ who are cooperating in the 1949 Agricultural Conservation Program to complete conservation practices. Now that many crops are harvested and farmers can get on the land to carry out a number of dirt-moving practices, it is time to complete terraces, dams, and drains which are needed on our farms, he suggests. Lime and phosphate can be put on the land. Winter cover can be seeded in some areas.

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ said that a preliminary check on the progress of the ACP in \_\_\_\_\_ County shows that about \_\_\_\_\_ farmers are cooperating in the program this year. This is \_\_\_\_\_ percent of the farmers in the county.

According to the chairman, the county has been allocated \$ \_\_\_\_\_ "to assist farmers in carrying out conservation practices under the Agricultural Conservation Program this year. These funds have been provided to protect and conserve the soil and water resources in \_\_\_\_\_ county. As farmers, we have an obligation to the country to do our part in carrying out the conservation practices that are needed. These funds have been provided for this purpose. As a committee we have a responsibility to get the job done but it is up to the individual farmers in the county to do the work. Only by full cooperation of all farmers can we do the conservation job."

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BRANNAN EXPLAINS "WHY FARM PRICE SUPPORTS?" - Why the prices of agricultural products should be supported in preference to those of certain other basic industries was explained by Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan in a recent talk before Chicago businessmen.

"The answer," the Secretary said, "lies in the nature of agriculture...the old classical theory held that when the price of any particular commodity falls, a reduction in the output of that commodity is the inevitable result. The theory





works out fairly well in those industries that are able to shut down or to work fewer shifts a day or fewer days a week.

"For the farmer, however, the effect of falling prices is likely to be increased production. He takes a look at his taxes, interest, debt, upkeep of machines and equipment, and he says: 'It takes twice as many hogs to stay in business at 10 cents a pound as it takes at 20 cents.' His natural inclination is to increase output to compensate for smaller unit prices.

"I have heard businessmen say: 'When our inventories are too big, we close them out. We don't ask the Government to put a floor under our prices.'

"Let's think about that.

"Before the war, it was estimated that industries which together produced one-third of all our industrial production were each controlled by four or fewer than four firms. It's not too hard to adjust production in those circumstances. But how would you adjust production to demand if instead of being in competition with five firms or even 500, you were competing against 5 million?

"How would you go about closing out your inventory if your commodities were perishable as most farm commodities are?...How would you go about closing down production once your crop is in, and your only choice is either to harvest it or allow it to go to waste in the fields? Suppose you had machines that once you started them, you couldn't shut off for 6 months -- or if you did shut them off, you put yourself out of a job. Suppose you had machines that didn't produce a given quantity in a given time -- but that gave you bumper production or almost no production at all, depending on the sun and the rain.

"Suppose, finally, that you had almost no control over the prices of your product and that they could leap way up or fall way down without any reference to your labor and your costs.

"Think about that. Then ask yourselves whether a price stabilization program for that kind of an industry isn't just the same kind of common sense that causes a person to come inside when it's raining...





"I believe that the very heart of an adequate farm program, at this time, is the stabilization of farm prices at levels which will promote agricultural abundance and prosperity.

"I am completely and unshakably convinced that farm price supports are necessary not only for agriculture, but for all the people of the Nation."

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NEW MEXICO

WEEKLY FARM PROGRAM NEWS

CCC PURCHASING COTTONSEED - Many cotton farmers of New Mexico are taking advantage of the Cottonseed Purchase Program offered by the Commodity Credit Corporation through PMA county committees, according to W. Leslie Martin, Chairman of the State PMA Committee. Under this price support program farmers may realize \$46.50 per ton for their cottonseed as soon as the seed is delivered to the county committee at or near the gin. (County committees should designate receiving points.)

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NEWLY ELECTED PMA COMMITTEES - Newly elected PMA county and community committeemen for \_\_\_\_\_ county took office November 1, according to \_\_\_\_\_, newly elected chairman of the PMA county committee. Other members of the county committee are (list names and addresses).

Newly elected community committeemen are (list names by communities).

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CONSERVATION TEAM -- FARMER AND ACP - The Agricultural Conservation Program has been provided for the use of farmers of \_\_\_\_\_ county in meeting their conservation problems, says \_\_\_\_\_, chairman of the county PMA Committee. It is available to all farmers and cooperation in it is voluntary.

Because the conservation of soil is so vital to the welfare of all the people of the Nation, he explains, ACP has been provided as a practical way of getting needed conservation practices carried out. In the first place, the Program brings to the attention of farmers the conservation practices which have been approved for each particular conservation problem. Then, through the Program, the individual farmer can obtain assistance in carrying out these practices.





This assistance, says the chairman, is in the form of materials, services and financial aid. The amount of assistance varies with the urgency of getting particular practices established. But the amount -- in materials, services or conservation payment -- averages about half the out-of-pocket cost of the practice.

In a very real and practical way the farmer who uses ACP to help him is cooperating with the rest of the people in the country in promoting the general welfare and strengthening the national security. When he carries out the ACP conservation practices on his farm, he is giving assurance to this and future generations that his farm is being protected from wind and water erosion and that the soil is being built up for continued abundant production.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ said that funds allocated to the county for conservation are intended as a means of assisting farmers in carrying out conservation practices which are most urgently needed. It has been the policy of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and those who administer this USDA conservation program to use the funds appropriated by Congress for ACP to assist farmers in carrying out conservation practices which are urgently needed and which would not be carried out without the assistance provided under the program. It was not intended for routine practices which the farmer would carry out without assistance.

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